TAKE ME HOME

Take Me Home is a program that was developed by the Pensacola, Florida Police Department to better assist individuals with disabilities who may need extra help communicating in an emergency situation. This kind of assistance may be necessary if the individual is unable to speak or properly identify themselves, or if they become disoriented, or act in a manner that could be misinterpreted by first responders.

This program is a free service available to any City of Forney residents who may have trouble communicating and is aimed at individuals with Autism, Down syndrome, developmental or cognitive disabilities. The program is also intended to assist senior citizens who suffer from Dementia or Alzheimer's and may be at a higher risk of wandering off.

All information is kept confidential.

ENROLLMENT

The Take Me Home program is a database maintained by Forney Police Department and is only accessible to public safety personnel. Families or individuals are invited to complete a form that provides the individual's height, weight, and other identifying information as well as emergency contact information and certain medical information. A recent digital photograph will be taken at the time of enrollment. This information is entered in a database that can be quickly accessed by the Forney Police Department.

When a participant in the Take Me Home Program is encountered by a police officer, a search in the Take Me Home database can be conducted by name or by a person's description to locate their record. Using this information allows the officer to appropriately assist the person.

Step 1

Enroll your loved one in the Take Me Home program by filling out a registration form. The form can be located on the Forney Police Department website at: http://www.cityofforney.org/TakeMeHome-Application. Once the form has been completed submit the form in one of the following methods:

- Take the form to the Forney Police Department along with your loved one needing to be enrolled in the program so that a digital photo can be attached to their record.
- Send an email to <u>takemehome@forneypd.org</u> and someone will contact you back to set an appointment for an officer to come to your location to retrieve the form and take a photo of your registered loved one. *The form will not be accepted by email.*

Step 2

When your loved one is located by a police officer and needs assistance, the officer will initiate a search in the Take Me Home database.

Step 3

With a match in the Take Me Home database, caregivers will be contacted immediately to let them know that their loved one has been found.

CALL 911

The system can also work in reverse: should your loved one go missing, their picture and description is immediately available. In this case, we encourage you to call 911 as soon as possible – especially if they are disabled. Be sure to inform the police that the individual is registered in the Take Me Home database.

For more information on Take Me Home Program, contact Officer N. Phillips (Badge # 244) or Lisa Harrell at the Forney Police Department at 972-564-7600 or by email at takemehome@forneypd.org